

VLR-9/16/80 NRHP-6/28/82

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

For HCRS use only  
received  
date entered

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Frascati

and/or common Frascati

2. Location

street & number State Route 231, south of Somerset  not for publication

city, town Somerset  vicinity of Seventh congressional district (J. Kenneth Robinson)

state Virginia code 51 county Orange code 137

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Hazle Edens, Hilton Farm, Orange, Va. 22960; Mrs JOHN C. BARROW  
John R. P. Woodruff, II, Somerset, Va. 22972  
Dennis S. Woodruff, Somerset, Va. 22972; William M. Smith, Esq.

street & number Trustee, u/w Elaine I. Woodruff, P. O. Box 1151, Charlottesville, Va. 22902

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Orange County Courthouse

street & number \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Orange state Virginia Zip Code 22960

6. Representation in Existing Surveys (2) (See Continuation Sheet #1)

title (1) Historic American Buildings Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1958 Inventory 1957  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Library of Congress

city, town Washington state D.C.

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Frascati, a Federal-style residence, is located off State Route 231 amidst the scenic farmland of Orange County. The house was built in 1821-23 for Philip Pendleton Barbour by John M. Perry, a master builder from Albemarle County. The 57' x 39' structure is executed in very even Flemish-bond brick with tooled penciled joints. The original building contract is preserved in the collections of the Virginia Historical Society and called for, "exterior walls of the whole house to be faced with rubber stretchers well burned..." with the brickwork also "to be equal to any...at the University of Virginia." A shallow hipped roof covers the 2½-story, double-pile residence.

The main (west) entrance has paneled double doors set within a frame containing an unusually large semicircular transom and complementing sidelights all encircled with elaborately patterned wooden tracery. The frame consists of symmetrical architraves with paneled corner blocks. The entrance is sheltered by a monumental, tetrastyle, pedimented Tuscan portico set on a brick podium. The portico has stuccoed columns, a full entablature and pediment with a semicircular lunette in the typanum. The original specifications also called for a "small portico at the south end of the house to be finished in a neat manner with small, well-proportioned pillars also rough cast...." The small portico was replaced in this century by the present kitchen wing. Its appearance is evident in an early charcoal sketch of the house. A porch with square pillars shelters the first story of the rear (east) elevation. The porch has multi-paned casement windows in some bays and screens in others and is topped by a simple wooden railing. It dates to the mid-19th century but has been much worked over. The north (side) elevation features an early 20th-century wooden deck with a simple wooden balustrade. A window was converted into a door to provide access to the deck.

Fenestration throughout the house consists of 6/6 hung-sash windows set in wooden architraves and flanked by original louvred shutters. The shutters are referred to as "neat Venetian blinds" in the original building contract. Paired interior end chimneys are located on the north and south elevations. A later semi-exterior chimney is found on the rear (east) elevation. Gabled dormers, added at a later date, are found on all but the main elevation. The roof is covered with standing-seam sheet metal.

Frascati's central hall plan and interior are discussed at some length in the original specifications:

The house to have a passage through the middle of it ten feet wide in the clear; and to have a cross partition wall so as to divide the floors of each story into four rooms besides the passage; both the passage walls and cross walls to go from the foundation to the top to be of brick and of the same thickness in the several stories as in the outer walls; the whole house basement story and all, to be well plaistered with a due proportion of plaister of Paris ...The drawing room and passage each to have a handsome cornice of plaister, and each a handsome center ornament of plaister in the ceiling; the general style of all the wood work to be like Thomas Macon's dwelling house... there are to be two staircases one private from the dining room and chamber, with a closet under it; the other an elegant ornamental one out of the passage... (sic)

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates	1821-23	Builder/Architect	John M. Perry
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### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Frascati was built 1821-23 for the Supreme Court justice and statesman Philip Pendleton Barbour. The stately dwelling is one of the outstanding architectural monuments of the Piedmont. It was built by John M. Perry, an Albemarle County contractor who was also one of the master builders employed by Thomas Jefferson for the building of the University of Virginia. With Tuscan portico and correctly proportioned classical detailing, the house shows a strong Jeffersonian influence; however, the plan and general outline follow the more conventional Federal schemes popular at the time. Frascati is also among the best documented 19th-century houses of central Virginia. Along with a ca. 1835 drawing, Perry's building contract and numerous bills survive.

Thomas Barbour, the father of Philip, came to Orange County as a young man from Culpeper County. Thomas Barbour's name first appears in the Orange County record books in 1761 when he purchased 454 acres in St. Thomas Parish. He was appointed King's Justice in 1768, represented Orange County in the House of Burgesses, was sheriff in 1776, and a member of the Revolutionary Conventions of 1774 and 1775. He was a county lieutenant and a colonel in the Revolution. In 1806 he and his wife, Mary, sold their home tract of 885 acres to their son, Philip.

Philip Pendleton Barbour, born in 1783, took up the regular practice of law in Gordonsville after briefly attending the College of William and Mary in 1801. Twice elected during the War of 1812 as a delegate from Orange County to the Virginia General Assembly, he entered the United States Congress in 1814 and served continuously through the 18th Congress. Unlike his brother James Barbour, he reacted vehemently to the post-war nationalist policies of Calhoun and Clay and became known for the zeal with which he expounded the Virginia doctrines of state rights and strict construction. He opposed Calhoun's Bonus Bill, argued for the admission of Missouri without restrictions on slavery, and, as counsel for the state in *Cohens v Virginia*,\* combatted the extension of federal jurisdiction by the Supreme Court under Marshall. From 1821-23, the period in which Frascati was constructed, Barbour served as Speaker of the House of Representatives. \*(1821

In 1825 he declined the offer of the professorship of law at the University of Virginia, in order to accept an appointment to the Virginia General Court. With the exception of his services as a representative to the 20th and 21st Congress and as president of the Virginia Convention of 1829-30, Barbour spent the rest of his professional life on the state and federal bench. President Jackson appointed him to the U.S. Circuit Court for the Eastern Division of Virginia in 1830 and elevated him to the United States Supreme Court in 1836. Many of his colleagues believed he would have become chief justice had his untimely death during a session of the Court in 1841 not cut short his distinguished career as a lawyer, statesman, and jurist.

Barbour entered into his "Articles of Agreement" with Perry on November 7, 1821. Referring to the house's exterior, the agreement states, "The brick work to be equal to any...at the University." For the interior it is stated: "The general style of all the woodwork, to be like Thomas Macon's dwelling house...The dining room and chamber to have dadoing like Mr. Macon's...the sub base in drawing room to be equal to best at the University." From these passages it may be inferred that Barbour was quite familiar with Perry's

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Albemarle County Deed Books 14, 15, 19, 20, 51.

Land Tax Books 1802-20, 1825-26, 1835.

Bruce, Philip Alexander. History of the University of Virginia 1819-1919. New York: MacMillan and Co., 1920.

(See Continuation Sheet #2)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 25 acres

Quadrangle name Gordonsville

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	7	7	4	4	1	1	0	4	2	3	1	8	7	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B 

1	7	7	4	4	4	2	0	4	2	3	1	7	0	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

C 

1	7	7	4	4	1	8	0	4	2	3	1	4	2	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

D 

1	7	7	4	3	9	1	0	4	2	3	1	6	9	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting				Northing							

**Verbal boundary description and justification** Beginning at a point on fence line almost 900' E of State Route 231, 300' S of Hen and Bacon Run, about 1000' NE of intersection of said route and State Route 654; thence extending approximately 1500' SE following 440' contour line to W side of private drive; thence extending about 900' SW along said side of said drive to E side of said route 231; thence extending along said side of said route about 1250' NW to fence line; thence extending 750' NE following fence line to point of origin.

state \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ code \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

organization Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission date September 1980

street & number 221 Governor Street telephone (804) 786-3144

city or town Richmond state Virginia 23219

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Tucker Hill, Executive Director

title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

date SEP 16 1980

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

Frascati, Orange County, Virginia

Continuation sheet

#1

Item number 6, 7

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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS:

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey  
1967, 1980 State  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
221 Governor Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

7. DESCRIPTION:

A semicircular arch supported on fluted Doric pilasters divides the hall into an entry and stair hall. The stair hall is dominated by the original "ornamental" stair that ascends in an open well to the second floor. It is typical of the period, having a turned newel, scrolled brackets, a rounded handrail and square balusters.\* The hall's paneled doors are framed by simple three-part architraves that are used throughout the house. A deeply molded entablature runs the perimeter of both halls. The formal parlor retains its elaborate plaster ceiling medallion that consists of an acanthus leaf center and swags held by alternating cupids and doves. The plaster entablature has an acanthus leaf cornice, egg and dart molding, and a frieze of swags with garlands and cupids. The parlor and dining room mantels are the most elaborate in the house and consist of fluted Ionic columns supporting a classical entablature with applied fluted paterae in the frieze and a dentiled mantel shelf. The mantels in the bedroom and den are less ornamental and suggest in their classical simplicity the influence of Jeffersonian design at the University. The floors are of pine, and the walls are plastered throughout the house. A less formal stair runs from the second floor to the attic.\*two to a tread.

An early charcoal sketch, ca. 1830, shows the house as it was landscaped originally. The view depicts a white picket fence that runs across the front of the property with a walk planted with box leading to the house. Lombardy poplars and other newly planted trees are seen in front of the house. Also in the view are a lattice gazebo and an outbuilding which have not survived. In the rear of the house is the remnant of the extensive original garden. It consists of terraces bordered by what are now exceptionally large American boxwood. It is said that part of the garden was enclosed originally by a serpentine wall. Beyond the immediate grounds of the house is the pastoral, rolling farmland of Orange County.

The brick kitchen-laundry is the sole surviving early outbuilding. The building is executed in Flemish-bonded brick with a houndstooth brick cornice that runs along the front eaves. The gabled-roof structure retains its original end chimney and interior fireplace as well as a more recent cock-fighting pit. A wood-frame storage shed was added later to the kitchen. Twentieth-century farm buildings include three barns, a smoke house, farm-shop, corn and feed storage barns, and several smaller structures. The farm maintains three 20th-century tenant houses.

RCC

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The nominated property consists of <sup>25</sup> acres, a fraction of the original Barbour estate of 885 acres. The boundaries are drawn to include the main house and the kitchen-laundry and garden. Modern farm structures are included within the nominated acreage.

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Frascati, Orange County, Virginia

Continuation sheet #2

Item number 8, 9

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8. SIGNIFICANCE:

capabilities through his work at the University of Virginia and was attracted to the home of his neighbor, Thomas Macon. Macon's house, Somerset, is still standing and constitutes a large two-story, double-pile, five-bay Federal residence with notably fine interior woodwork. The house was built ca. 1803 for Macon and his wife Sally Madison, sister of President James Madison of Montpelier.

Like Somerset, the general scheme of Frascati appears to have been influenced by the more conventional, central-hall Federal house type. This more conventional format contrasts with the tastes of Philip Barbour's brother, Senator James Barbour of Barboursville. Barboursville was designed by Thomas Jefferson in 1822 and shows Jefferson's mixing of French and Palladian forms similar to that at Monticello. Philip's design preference was clearly tied to a traditional Georgian house as indicated by his numerous references to Somerset, the home of Thomas Macon.

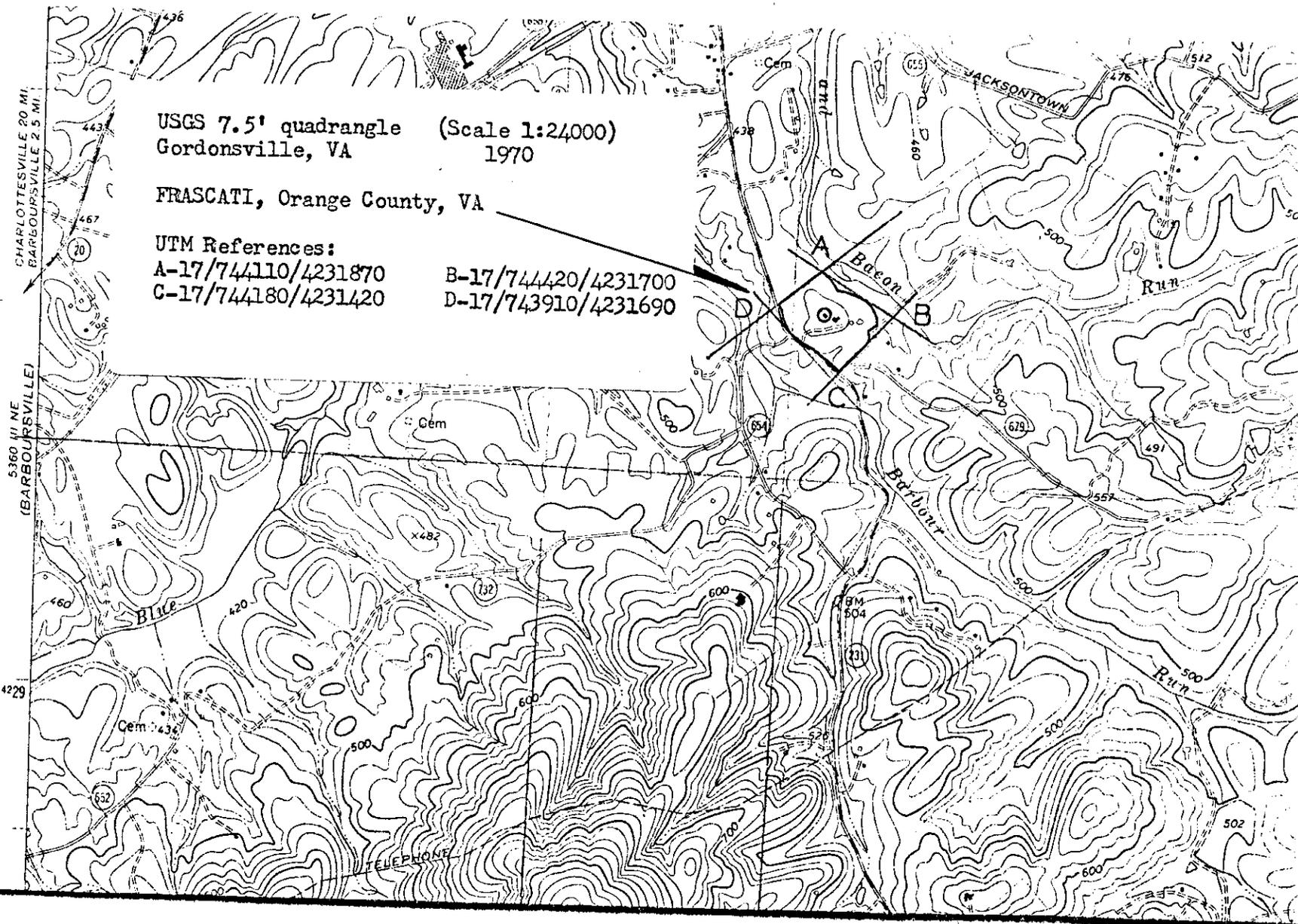
John M. Perry first appears in the Albemarle County record books in 1804 when he purchased a tract of land on Buck Island Creek from Henry Wood for 719 pounds. In 1814 he bought several large tracts from John Nicholas which he subsequently sold in 1817 as part of the future site of the University of Virginia. Perry was contracted to build the University's first pavilion and assisted in the erection of a majority of the other University edifices. He was chief manufacturer of the brick and also supplied cut lumber for all the contractors. After a successful career as a builder in Albemarle and surrounding counties, Perry moved to Missouri in 1836 and died some years later in Mississippi.

Frascati was Barbour's home until his death in 1841. His wife sold the estate in 1848 to Captain James Magruder, another local builder who had worked under Jefferson on the University. The residence is presently owned by the Woodruff family, who have preserved its farm setting.

VDS/RCC

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

- Malone, Dumas. "Philip Pendleton Barbour." Dictionary of American Biography vol. I, pp. 594-596.
- Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia. Mutual policy No. 472, Reel 6, V. 48.
- O'Neal, William B. "The Workmen at the University of Virginia, 1817-1826." The Magazine of Albemarle County History, vol. 17, 1958-59.
- Orange County Deed Books 13, 15, 16, 17, 22, 24, 29, 41.  
Land Tax Books 1782-1870.  
Will Book 9.
- Richmond, Va. Virginia Historical Society Archives. "Barbour Family Papers."
- Wood, The Rev. Edgar. Albemarle County in Virginia. Bridgewater, Virginia, 1964.



USGS 7.5' quadrangle (Scale 1:24000)  
Gordonsville, VA 1970

FRASCATI, Orange County, VA

UTM References:

A-17/744110/4231870

B-17/744120/4231700

C-17/744180/4231420

D-17/743910/4231690

CHARLOTTESVILLE 20 MI  
BARBOURSVILLE 2.5 MI

5360 (11 NE  
(BARBOURSVILLE)

4229

